



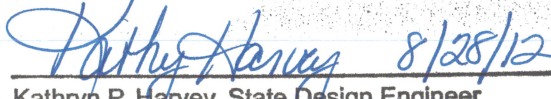
Department of Public Works

10 North Bemiston • Clayton, Missouri 63105-3397 • (314) 290-8540 • FAX (314) 863-0296 • TDD: (314) 290-8435

August 22, 2012

Mr. James Schmidt
District Design Liaison
Missouri Department of Transportation
1590 Woodlake Drive
Chesterfield, MO 63017

I do hereby attest that in accordance with the requirements of 23 CFR 635.411(c), the use of this patented or proprietary item is in the public interest.


Kathryn P. Harvey, State Design Engineer

RE: Public Interest Finding-Vanguard Detectable Warning
Pedestrian Enhancement Project
Federal Project No. STP: 5438(607)

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

Upon receipt of the email you sent us on August 13th, forwarded from Llans Taylor, Dan Rieck and I spoke with Llans about the PIFs we had previously submitted. Based upon Llans's feedback, Dan will be resubmitting a number of PIFs, and will revise other specifications to comply with MoDOT's requirements.

One of the more complicated products discussed was Vanguard Detectable Warning (www.vanguardonline.com). As Llans brought up in his email, the City's website shows our standard detectable warning as Arcis precast tiles. We have been using Arcis tiles for about 4 years, and prior to that used a similar product called Cast-In-Tact for several years. They met the ADA requirements while also providing acceptable aesthetic qualities.

In recent years, as we have all become more educated about accessibility requirements, we have found that while square/rectangular products such as precast tiles work well in ideal circumstances where curb ramps are perpendicular to the street and of consistent widths, they do not work well for more complex geometries. In an effort to fit curved ramps, tiles must be cut at angles and fit back together. These field cuts rarely fit together perfectly, and a lot of material is wasted.

The City of Clayton strives to be at the forefront of accessibility, not just meeting standards, but exceeding them. In our search to find a better product, we came across Vanguard, which is a painted-on product. Thus, it can be customized to any shape. It is also very durable. When we inquired as to locations where we could see it in-place, we learned that, while there were no local installations, the City of Branson has been using Vanguard for 5+ years. I contacted Branson's Director of Public Works, and he confirmed that they are very happy with the product, and use it extensively.

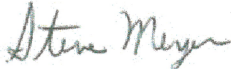
Since we still wanted to see the product for ourselves, we arranged for Ozarks Vanguard to perform a demonstration here in Clayton, and invited other municipalities, consultants,

and contractors to observe the installation process. We specifically chose a busy location where detectable warning had not yet been installed-at the intersection of Central and Bonhomme. Vanguard was installed on three ramps at the intersection on October 31, 2011. While we did not have a hard winter to truly put it to the test, it still looks great and functions great. The two ramps on the north side of Bonhomme will remain in place, while the ramps on the south side will be replaced as part of the Pedestrian Enhancement Project.

Since the City does still have some Arcis tiles in stock (received a discount for a placing large order), we will continue to use them in ideal geometric circumstances until our stock has been depleted. In order to maintain consistency, we actually provide them to contractors doing work in the ROW. However, it is our intention to phase out the precast tiles and strictly use Vanguard in the future. It is more economical, better meets the spirit and intent of PROWAG, and is easier to install. For all of these reasons, we are requesting approval of the previously submitted Public Interest Finding.

Please let me know if you need additional information or have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Meyer".

Steve Meyer, P.E.
Civil Engineer

Attachments: photos

cc: Dan Rieck, CDG
file



Fig. 1: Arcis Tiles cut to fit an angled/curved ramp on Wydown Blvd. While the contractor did their best, some of the lines are still crooked, and caulk had to be used to fill gaps. There are also hollow spots underneath the tiles because the concrete began to set up while cutting the tiles.

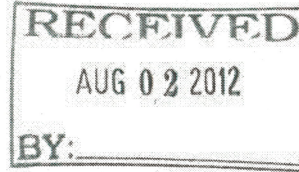


Fig. 2: Vanguard detectable warning at the NWC of Bonhomme and Central. While this corner is still relatively simple geometrically, you can already see the benefit of being able to match the shape of ramp with the detectable warning product.



CDG Engineers Architects Planners, Inc.

July 31, 2012



One Campbell Plaza
St. Louis, Missouri 63139
T. 314 781 7770 F. 314 781 9075

www.cdgenengineers.com

Mr. Jim Schmidt
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Local Roads
1590 Woodlake Drive
Chesterfield, Missouri 63017-5712

RE: City of Clayton
Clayton Pedestrian Enhancement Project
Federal Project No. STP-5438(607)
Letter of Public Interest Finding
CDG Project No. 11073

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

On behalf of the City of Clayton, CDG Engineers hereby requests approval of a finding in the public interest to use Truncated Domes for Curb Ramps manufactured by Vanguard ADA Systems for the Clayton Pedestrian Enhancement project.

This project is a continuation of the City's Central Business District Streetscape Improvements. The City plans to improve pedestrian safety along Bonhomme Ave., S. Meramec Ave., S. Central Ave., and Shaw Park Dr. by removing and replacing sidewalks, crosswalks, accessible ramps, streetlights, and street trees.

The City requests that these Truncated Domes for Curb Ramps be used for the following reasons:

1. The City desires to maintain consistency throughout the Central Business District by matching existing streetscape improvements.
2. Utilizing a single type of Truncated Domes for Curb Ramps enables the City to reduce maintenance costs.
3. The City has limited storage capability and must limit their inventory selection.

Approval of this request at your earliest convenience would be appreciated. This project is scheduled for a January 2013 bid opening.

Should you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact me at 314-446-3527 or rieck@cdgenengineers.com. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,

CDG Engineers Architects Planners, Inc.

Daniel J. Rieck, E.I.T.
Assistant Project Manager

Approved By: _____
Title: _____

Date: _____